Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 09697 291740Z

64

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 SAM-01 OMB-01 ACDA-05 /075 W

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R 291555Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 539

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: PFOR, EG, UN

SUBJECT: WALDHEIM VISIT TO EGYPT

SUMMARY: DURING BRIEF VISIT TO CAIRO, UN SYG WALDHEIM MET WITH PRES SADAT AND FONMIN FAHMY. ON ARRIVING IN EGYPT HE DESCRIBED ME SITUATION AS VERY GRAVE AND SAID SYRIA VERY INTERESTED IN CONVENING OF GENEVA CONF. HE PERSONALLY CONSIDERED RESUMPTION OF GENEVA CONF EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AND THAT IT SHOULD BE HELD AS SOON AS SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE COMPLETED. AFTER HIS MEETINGS WITH EGYPTIANS HE SAID THAT IT WAS PREMATURE TO DEFINE NATURE OF COMING STEP, I.E. WHETHER IT WOULD BE WITHDRAWAL (SINAI) OR GENEVA CONF. END SUMMARY

1. UN SYG WALDHEIM CONCLUDED BRIEF VISIT TO EGYPT NOV 27/28. ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 09697 291740Z

ARRIVAL AT AIRPORT HE EXPRESSED GRATITUDE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS

CURRENT SITUATION IN ME WITH PRE SADAT AND FONMIN FAHMY. HE DESCRIBED PRESENT STAGE AS VERY GRAVE AND SAID THAT THIS HAD MOTIVATED HIM TO MAKE TOUR. WALDHEIM SAID HIS CONTACTS WITH SYRAIN GOVT HAD CONFIRMED ITS GREAT INTEREST IN HOLDING GENEVA CONF ASAP AND IN FINDING A QUICK POLITICAL SOLUTION TO ME CRISIS. HE EXPECTED UN TO DOUBLE ITS EFFORTS TO REACH POLITICAL SOLUTION. HE ADDED THAT HE PERSONALLY CONSIDERS RESUMPTION OF GENEVA CONF AS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AND THAT IT MUST BE HELD AS SOON AS SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR IT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED.

2. WALDHEIM MET WITH FAHMY FOR AN HOUR PRIOR TO MEETING WITH SADAT. UPON CONCLUSION OF MEETING WITH SADAT (FAHMY WAS ALSO PRESENT), WALDHEIM DESCRIBED SESSION AS "VERY IMPORTANT" AND THAT HE BELIEVED AS A RESULT HE HAD BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF SITUATION

. WALDHEIM DESCRIBED HIS TALKS WITH SADAT AS TAKING PLACE IN VERY

CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE AND INDICATED HE HAD BEEN PROVIDED WITH OPPORTUNITY FOR EXCHANGES OF POINTS OF VIEW ON A WIDE SCALE.

3. ON EVENING OF 28TH, FAHMY HOSTED WORKING DINNER FOR WALD-HEIM TO WHICH AMBASSADORS REPRESENTING PERMANENT MEMBERS OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL WERE INVITED.

- 4. PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE WALDHEIM HELD AIRPORT PRESS CONF, WHERE HE PRAISED EFFORTS EXERTED BY EGYPT TO EASE TENSIONS IN ME. HE AGAIN REFERRED TO HIS TALKS WITH SADAT AS OF EXTREME IMPORTANCE AND CONSTRUCTIVE. HE EXPRESSED OPTIMISM CONCERNING THE POSSBILITIES OF MAKING PROGRESS IN ME BUT SAID THAT EFFORTS MUST BE REDOUBLED IN COMING WEEKS AND MONTHS. HE DENIED THAT FEB WAS FIXED DATE FOR GENEVA CONF, SAYING THAT PREPARATIONS MUST FIRST BE MADE TO GUARANTEE SUCCESS OF THAT MEETING. HE ADDED CONF IS EXPECTED TO BE "HELD DURING FIRST MONTHS OF NEXT YEAR".
- 5. WHEN ASKED IF HE EXPECTED NEXT STEP TO BE FURTHER WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI OR HOLDING OF GENEVA CONF, WALDHEIM ANSWERED IT WAS PREMATURE TO DEFINE NATURE OF COMING STEP. WHEN QUERIED IF WALDHEIM HAD FOUND PRES SADAT AND EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS AS ENTHUSIASTIC AS SYRIANS FOR GENEVA CONF, HE RESPONDED HE DID NOT USE WORD "ENTHUSIASTIC" BUT THAT SYRIA IS INTERESTED IN HOLDING GENEVA CONF ASAP. WALDHEIM POINTED OUT HE WOULD DISCUSS DATE OF CONF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 CAIRO 09697 291740Z

WITH SYRIA AND EGYPT. (HE DID NOT INDICATE WHETHER HE HAD OR WOULD DISCUSS CONF WITH ISRAELIS).

6. WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT IMPACT OF PALESTINIAN PROBLEM ON HIS TALKS IN SYRIA, ISRAEL AND EGYPT, WALDHEIM SAID IT WAS OF PARAMOUNTIMPORTANCE IN ANY SETTLEMENT OF ME SITUATION AND HE HAD DISCUSSED IT IN HIS TALKS WITHALL 3 GOVTS. WHEN ASKED IF HE BELIEVED UN HAD NOW SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS OR RESPONSIBILITIES

TOWARD PALESTINIAN CAUSE AFTER UNGA RES, HE RESPONDED "UN HAS ALWAYS HAD SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD ME". HE CONCLUDED THAT "THERE IS A NEW SITUATION WHICH MUST BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION" IN SETTLING CRISIS.

7. COMMENT: IT IS NOTEWORTHY WALDHEIM APPARENTLY BACKED OFF FROM STRONG PRO GENEVA CONF STANCE HE TOOK ON ARRIVAL. HIS REMARKS AFTER MEETINGS WITH SADAT AND FAHMY WERE FAR LESS POSITIVE CONCERNING NEXT STEP IN THE PEACE-SEEKING PROCESS. NOV 27/28 AL AHRAM ARTICLES BY DIPLOMATIC EDITOR (HAMDI FUAD) WHICH REPORTEDLY INDICATE POINTS SADAT AND FAHMY MADE TO WALDHEIM DURING THEIR MEETINGS REPORTED SEPTEL. EILTS

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TAGS: PFOR, EG, UN, GENEVA, (WALDHEIM, KURT)

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